

North Carolina National Guard Press Release

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TO: News Directors, Editors
FROM: Maj. Matt Handley
Public Affairs Officer
DATE: April 8, 2008
RE: Family remembers Staff Sgt. Pickett

Raleigh – The family of Staff Sgt. Emanuel Pickett gathered in Teachey, NC today at the home of his parents to reminisce about a man of many talents, engaging smile, and great physical and moral strength.

His sister-in-law, Teyaka Beatty Pickett said “He was always easy going, a good communicator, and an all around unique person and very family oriented.”

Kemley Pickett, his older brother and a Major at the Samson County Sheriff’s office, said “He was an excellent Captain of Detectives patterning his love of law enforcement after me and our grandfather who was a policeman at the Wallace Police Department. He made Captain in seven years, from patrol to Captain in seven years that is very outstanding.”

According to family members, Emanuel was known for his multi-tasking, coaching youth basketball with his brother for Wallace Parks and Recreation, working as a certified law enforcement instructor and juggling a variety of Law enforcement roles working with a host of law enforcement from communities across eastern North Carolina.

According to Kemley he was one of the first community police officers in Wallace speaking with churches on crime prevention.

His laughter, his smile, kindness and his free heart, he loved family and people in general, family members said. They remarked how he was no stranger to anyone in Wallace or the surrounding counties, working with the State Bureau of Investigation and even going undercover to catch drug criminals.

His sister Vivian Pickett said “He would always be there for me, encouraging me. When he went to Iraq both times he called back and told our dad to help me out with what ever I needed, I will always miss his smile.”

His nephew Rashon Pickett said “I will always remember all the love he had for everybody.”

Correction: The Pickett family would like to correct an error in an earlier release. That release reported that Staff Sgt. Pickett was the father of two children, when in truth he had three, another daughter. They feel that this daughter was equally important to Staff Sgt. Pickett and should be recognized.

Editors Note: Some family members of Staff Sgt Pickett are available for interviews while others ask that members of the media respect their privacy. The family has requested any media requests to be routed through the N.C. National Guard Public Affairs Office at 919-664-6242. Media with additional questions are requested to contact the NC National Guard Public Affairs Office at 919-664-6242. Funeral Arrangements and any other additional information will follow in further releases.